

Concrete Examples

OF THE PROGRESS OF THE NEGRO IS SHOWN IN THREE MISSISSIPPI TOWNS.

Successful Bank

Is teaching the masses frugality and helping them to make better citizens of themselves, while fostering other enterprises.

(Horace D. Slatter)

Vicksburg, Miss., May 2.—To show in a measure the advantages of the Negroes in the South for advancement in commercial and educational directions, it is only necessary to compare the growth of this people in any good sized city in the South with that of the same people in a Northern community. There are in the city of Washington upwards of 90,000 Negroes, more Negroes than there are people in the three largest cities in the State of Mississippi, and yet, in either one of these three Mississippi towns, more concrete examples of progress are shown among the Negroes than is true of Washington.

The growth and work of the Union Savings Bank, one of the many Negro banks in the South is the story of the hard work, the diligence and intelligence of a Nashville Negro boy, who attended school at Walden University, and who is in every way proud of the fact that he is a Southern man—a Southern Negro. The Negro in question is T. G. Ewing, Jr., the son of the well known Negro lawyer and Cashier of the Peoples Savings Bank and Trust Co., of Nashville, Tenn.

T. G. Ewing, Jr., and the late Dr. C. Henri Woodde were the founders of the Union Savings Bank, which was organized in 1904. The fact was pointed out to the promoters that there were already eight banks in the city of Vicksburg, one of them a colored institution and the launching of another enterprise seemed, at least, foolhardy.

Mr. Ewing now declares that in his mind and the minds of the other promoters there was never any question of the success of the institution and the rapid growth of the institution from its humble quarters in the basement of the old Washington Hotel to its present commodious location on the corner of Washington and Grove Streets, is but the verification of their opinions.

Some idea of the bank's increase in business may be gained from these figures: In 1906, the resources of the bank were \$13,334.05; in 1907 they were \$53,263.05; in 1908 they were \$56,531.78; in June 15th, 1909 they were \$58,817.71. The capital stock of the bank has been recently increased from \$10,000 to \$25,000.

There is a more than ordinary business side to the successful conduct of a Negro bank. Negroes in some quarters have but little respect for the ability and worth of their own people. Of course, these facts too, are often discounted by some white people. The successful operation of this and any other banking institution helps the Negroes of the community in divers ways.

It assists depositors in saving money. It pays them interest on savings accounts, and thus lifts them up in the realm of people with incomes. It reaches the masses and leads them into the banking business. It fosters other Negro enterprises. It offers dignified positions

to worthy young men. It has made it possible for Negroes to own bank stock. It has demonstrated the fact that Negroes can operate straight, clear-cut banking business. It has helped its patrons to secure homes, and has kept many from losing their homes.

It really would be difficult to realize how much the Union Savings Bank at Vicksburg has helped the masses. Some Negroes, having never had any dealings with banks felt that the larger institutions were too far removed from them. It is an entirely different thing to have a banker sit next you in the church, to exchange visits with you, and to greet you in familiar manner on the streets. Thus by the appearance of the Negro bank, banking business is brought right home to the Negro wage-earner, and it is well to add that in nearly every case, it has taken only a few months dealing with the bank to drive away the morbid fear of its breaking.

Still another class of persons who were in the habit of spending all their money was reached, to the end that they not only began to build up an account, but very soon acquired the saving habit in a very pronounced manner. Nine cases out of ten the man who saves his money, and who acquires property is a better man than he who does not, so the Negro bank likewise can add to its credit the fact that it makes better citizens of the people.

A significant feature of the Union Savings Bank is that all of its officers are young men, men of the new school, who believe in doing things. Men who, from the education they have received in the South hardly have the inclination to wait for positions to turn up for them, but have gone out and "turned up" something. The president of the bank, J. G. H. Bowman is a man not yet 35, and the cashier and one of the founders was a barefoot boy in Nashville, about 20 years ago.

Rev. A. M. Johnson, Vice-President; Thomas Dillon, Second-Vice-President; G. M. McIntyre, Assistant Cashier; are the other officers. The directors are all well known and substantial Negroes of this state among them J. D. Dora, a successful planter of Warren County; T. V. McAllister, Receiver of Public Monies; Jackson; Rev. J. C. H. Henry of Vicksburg; W. H. Jones, H. W. Ware, Robert Bell, Mrs. W. T. Jones, and Prof. L. J. Rowan, President of Alcorn A. and M. College; Rev. W. E. Dangerfield and William Lyman.

The institution has every facility for conducting a regular commercial and savings bank business, and in addition to the security of a time lock, burglar safe, and burglar insurance has been provided. All of these young people connected with this institution stand well in the councils of their race and hold the respect of all the people of both races in their community. Such examples should be the highest incentive to other young men of the Negro race to rise in spite of conditions, for after all, it is the individual that makes the environments, not environments the man.

BLACK MAMMY STATUE.

Texas Starts Movement to Erect Million Dollar Memorial.

Washington, April 28.—Appeals from prominent men all over the country to make the movement for the erection of a monument to the "Old Black Mammy" of the south national, prompted the authors of the proposition to change it from a Texas to a national affair. The idea is to erect a marble or granite monument to cost \$1,000,000 to the faithful old character in Washington.

18th Anniversary

OF THE WEST VIRGINIA COLORED INSTITUTE WAS CELEBRATED TUESDAY.

General Watts Speaks

And Cnty. school historian, reads interesting sketch setting forth main facts in history of the institution.

Institute, May 3.—General C. C. Watts, of Charleston, West Virginia, delivered the principal address at the celebration of the 18th Anniversary of the West Virginia Colored Institute today. He addressed was regarded by those who heard it, as the most liberal and statesmanlike every delivered at the school. He paid a glowing tribute to the Negro's loyalty, saying that it had no parallel in all history and should be talked about more among white people and colored people. He made a most touching appeal for the cultivation of loyalty friendly relations between the races. He said that wherever the black man and white man understood each other they were friends, and that it was only the enemy to them both who tried to engender race feeling.

By the part General Watts took in establishing the West Virginia Colored Institute, he erected to himself a monument more endearing than granite.

Just before he spoke Mr. J. M. Cnty. the school historian, read the following sketch of the school:

Each year reviewing the history of the school, it has been the custom to discuss in detail the Morrill Bill and the Act of the State Legislature relating to the establishment of this institution. At best, the history of the school is apt to become monotonous to you who have listened to the relating of it for several years. As Honorable Thomas E. Hodges, in his recent address on the life of the late Honorable Justin S. Morrill, reviewed the Congressional and state acts that had to do with the establishment of this school, and as the distinguished speaker with us may touch on the same points I shall be brief in relating some of the other incidents in the history of the school.

"The first Board of Regents, appointed to control the institution, at its first meeting, April 1st 1892, elected the late Mr. J. Edwin Campbell Principal and our present President Mr. Byrd Prillerman, his assistant."

"On May 3rd, 1892, the original part of this building being completed, the school was formally opened with two instructors and twelve students. The value of the entire plant, consisting of one building and thirty-one acres of land, was \$10,000."

"Before this school was established the state was appropriating money for the training of colored teachers. Storer College was the beneficiary of this appropriation. In 1893 the State Superintendent, Honorable B. S. Morgan, and the Board of Regents entered into an agreement which resulted in this institution, instead of Storer College, receiving the Normal Appropriations. Thus our Normal Department was established."

"Our part of the Morrill Fund, in the beginning, was \$3,000, annually. The state's first appropriation was \$10,000 making the total amount available for the school for all purposes for the first year \$13,000."

"The institution has made continuous progress since its inception. It has grown from a plant of one building and thirty-one acres of land to one of nine buildings (if we count the greenhouse and barn) and sixty-seven acres of land. The number of students has increased from twelve in 1892 to the present enrollment of two thousand and fifty-one. The teaching force has been augmented from two instructors to twenty-three officers and teachers. The Departments of the school have grown from two to seven."

"During the eighteen years of the history of the school, we have had, including the present incumbent, four heads of the institution, viz: Mr. J. Edwin Campbell, elected April 1, 1892; resigned May 29, 1894; Mr. John H. Hill, elected June 1894, and resigned in July 1898 to accept a First Lieutenant's commission in the 8th Infantry, U. S. V. The late Mr. J. McHenry Jones, was elected September 21st, 1898, and was the first to be styled "President."

"The demise of President Jones Sept. 22nd, 1899, made it necessary for the Board of Regents to elect the fourth executive officer of the school. Preliminary steps in this direction were taken September 23, 1899, when a committee of the Board of Regents appointed Mr. Byrd Prillerman Acting President. At a meeting of the Board of Regents in Morgantown October 18, 1899 the present head was elected President."

"President Jones served the school eleven years and one day, or through nearly two-thirds of its existence. The Institution has had its greatest growth and prosperity during his administration, and his death was lamented alike by the school and state, and at the proper time due respect will be paid to his memory."

"We are fortunate in having in President Jones' successor one who was connected with the school from its beginning, and we bespeak for his administration the success that has attended the institution these past eighteen years."

"In view of the amount of money received by the institution, the question may be asked in the language of Rev. Stratton, 'Does it pay?' We answer in the affirmative by pointing with pride and hope to the successful lives and achievements of ninety-nine percent of the two hundred and five graduates, some of whom have taken higher courses along the same line of their work here. Others have studied medicine, theology and law, while still others have served under the Stars and Stripes in the defense of our country."

"We have them as teachers in the rural, city, and state schools. Some are specialists in giving instruction in domestic science, book-keeping and stenography, agriculture, and in the mechanic arts. As literary teachers or specialists, our graduates are not confined to our state, but they may be found in most all of the Southern states, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean."

"Many of our graduates are in towns and cities pursuing their several trades as milliners, dressmakers, carpenters, printers, book-keepers, wheelwrights, painters, bricklayers, plasterers and blacksmiths."

"Considering the past with its hard ship and achievements, we venture the assertion, that the state acted wisely in creating this institution. Every Dollar spent for its maintenance has a tendency to decrease crime and criminals expense, and to elevate the standard of citizenship of the graduates sent forth from this institution, who by their lives of sobriety, intelligence and industry are contributing in essentials that have made this state one of the foremost commonwealths of the greatest government in the galaxy of nations."

Pretty Wedding

WAS THAT WHICH UNITED DR. BROWNLEY, OF THIS CITY, AND MISS MERIWETHER, PROMINENT IN THE EDUCATIONAL CIRCLES.

(Thomp-on's National News Bureau.)

Washington, D. C., May 1.—An unusually pretty wedding and which took rank with the most notable social events that have occurred in years in the nation's capital, was that of Miss Agnes L. Meriwether, of this city, and Dr. Benjamin Pierson Brownley, of Charleston, W. Va. The ceremony was performed at 6 p. m. at the 15th Street Presbyterian Church in the presence of a brilliant audience which completely filled the spacious edifice. The stately marriage service of the Episcopal church was conducted by Dr. Francis J. Grimké, assisted by Rev. W. V. Tunnell. The bride was given away by Mr. Robert Meriwether, her brother, who came on from New York for the occasion. The bride wore a French gown of gray messaline satin, with a gray picture hat to match, trimmed in weeping willow plumes. Her shower bouquet was of bride's roses. The maid of honor was Miss Nellie Meriwether, her sister who was attired in lavender silk, with hat to match and carried white roses. The bridesmaids were Miss Sadie Meriwether and Miss Edith Meriwether, two younger sisters. Miss Sadie wore a pale pink silk, and Miss Edith's gown was blue silk, each wearing large picture hats of harmonious tints, and carrying bouquets of pale pink roses. Mrs. J. H. Meriwether, mother of the bride, wore a soft gray silk. The "best man" was Dr. W. H. Wilson. The ushers who seated the guests, and afterwards preceded the bridal party to the altar were Messrs. Maurice Clifford, William Tarleton, F. E. Parks and Reginald Brooks.

Wagner's wedding march from "Lohengrin" was played as the bridal party entered the church and Mendelssohn's wedding march was rendered at the close of the ceremony. A musical program was given by the organist, Miss Eva Johnson, before the ceremony, followed by a solo, "For You Alone," sang with dramatic effect by Miss Nettie Murray.

A reception, attended by the close personal friends of the high contracting parties, was then held at the home of the bride, 1213 S. Street, N. W. Dr. and Mrs. Brownley took the 11:10 C. & O. train for their future home in Charleston.

Mrs. Brownley (nee Miss Meriwether) is a graduate of the preparatory and Teachers' College of Howard University. She taught one year at Howard and has been engaged in educational work in the State of Delaware and is regarded as a musician of great promise. She has been a favorite in the best society circles of the nation's capital. Dr. Brownley is a graduate of the pharmaceutical class of 1907, Howard Medical School, and decided to locate in Charleston, immediately made a deep impression upon the citizens of that thriving community and has succeeded in building up a prosperous business in the line of his profession. Both leave Washington with the best wishes of the host of warm friends for a long and happy life.

Charles H. Brownley, the son of the first baseman, is playing right field for Columbus.

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Animosity

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE.

where he came from. I have talked to many people, whites and blacks, and it is probable that if he is not removed any other way he will be driven out of town by force. He sent letters to citizens telling them that he had no desire to rebuild on the same site, and he now takes out this permit without being authorized by the board."

A petition signed by about 200 prominent white citizens of Atlanta was sent to the Bishops' council when they were in session, and Stinson claims that this was destroyed before ever being seen by the council. He states that he is of the opinion that Smith was at the back of this.

When asked about the permit Saturday morning, Smith stated that he had been authorized by the board to take it out, and that Stinson's statement "was just meant for annoyance."

The Atlanta Georgian, Feb. 19, 1910. "It is not absolutely necessary to go into any details to defend Bishop Smith or Dr. Lee. The work of any individual will stand out for itself. Just in the same manner the work that R. D. Stinson has been doing for more

than a decade will speak for itself. The records will show that while Dr. Stinson for eleven years has been financial agent of Morris Brown College, he has turned in during that time, less than \$3,000 as a result of his efforts.

Bishop Smith has no enemies in Georgia save one or two disgruntled preachers who did not get appointed presiding elders. He is doing a good work, giving general satisfaction in his diocese and with Morris Brown College. Less than three months after the fire that totally destroyed 17 rooms in that portion of the building used as a girls' dormitory, the whole damage has been remedied and that portion of the building being in first-class shape with material additions. School has never been discontinued except three days directly after the fire.

Added to this is to be considered the fact that these new improvements since the fire includes a heating plant installed at a cost of \$5,570, more than one-half of that amount having already been paid for.

To Dr. Stinson's contentions that Bishop Smith does not want an industrial department, it is only necessary to say that since Bishop Smith has been in Georgia and Dr. Lee president of the school, more actual results have been accomplished in the industrial department than ever before. I saw 97 girls in the large and well equipped sewing room taking sewing and millinery. The printing division last year printed the catalogue, which the previous year had been printed outside the Institution at a cost of \$200.00 and more. The president himself wore to the recent session of the Bishops' Council in Vicksburg a fifty dollar outfit of clothing that had been made in the tailoring division.

Dr. Stinson really ought to stop his foolishness, and if he can not be a constructive force in the work of Morris Brown College as financial agent, get out of the way and let the Bishop and President alone. It is no one's fault if he is not a successful agent. Perhaps it is not his own fault, but he is exhibiting such assinine folly in this embroglio that he ought to be silenced by some of his friends.

The Industrial Department at Morris Brown College is not very large. It can not be. They have no money save the \$30,000 they get annually from the hard working members of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. They have a financial agent who spends the most of his time in the North when he is not in Georgia raising the devil, but when it comes to raising money for the school, he does not count.